Everniastrum nepalense

Assessment by: Devkota, S. & Weerakoon, G.

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Taxonomy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fungi</td>
<td>Ascomycota</td>
<td>Lecanoromycetes</td>
<td>Lecanorales</td>
<td>Parmeliaceae</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Taxon Name:** *Everniastrum nepalense* (Taylor) Hale ex Sipman

**Synonym(s):**
- *Hypotrachyna nepalensis* (Taylor) Divakar, Crespo, Sipman, Elix & Lumbsch
- *Parmelia nepalensis* Taylor

**Assessment Information**

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern ver 3.1

**Year Published:** 2017

**Date Assessed:** August 25, 2017

**Justification:**
Seven lichen species including this species were assessed in Nepal. Six lichens are particularly important among the respondents for various uses. Use percentage of *E. nepalense* is 38% by Nepalese (Devkota et al. 2017). Therefore, overexploitation of this species has been observed. The situation in Nepal has only a minor effect on the global population and therefore the global status of this species is LC.

**Geographic Range**

**Range Description:**
*Everniastrum nepalense* is restricted to Sub-tropical to Sub-alpine to temperate parts and mountains in Asia.

**Country Occurrence:**
Native: Bhutan; China; India (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal); Nepal; Russian Federation (Central Asian Russia, Kamchatka); Sri Lanka; Thailand; Viet Nam

Population
No documentation of population sizes. However, this species is abundant in Nepal.
Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)
Widely distributed in on barks of Sub-tropical to Sub-alpine and mountains of Asia.

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade
Everniastrum nepalense is an edible lichen. In Nepal the species is used in preparing pickle, soups curry and sausage. Everniastrum cirrhatum and Parmotrema cetratum are used by Limbu people in Nepal for preparing sausages (with pig intestine, lichens and pig blood) in a unique way. There is great demand for this lichen from countries such as UK and Thailand since many Nepali people are living abroad. Lichens are also considered as the best gift items (Devkota et al. 2017). In China the species is also considered edible and it is fried or used to make soup. The species is also used as raw material for antibiotics and spice (Wang & Qian, 2012).

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)
In Nepal where the species is considered VU, the main threat for this species is harvesting widely for trade and ethical uses. The situation in Nepal has a minor effect on the global population.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)
Since 09 February 2011, the collection of lichens for commercial purposes and lichen trade has been completely banned. Despite the present ban on lichen collection, lichens are collected and traded illegally, with no documentation of population sizes, carrying capacity of forests or species identities, and no application of scientific tools or management. Competition among poor collectors to collect more and more lichen also forces them to cut branches and spend days and nights in the forest to collect lichens. This trend definitely leads to the decline of lichens in the wild due to overexploitation. Property rights of collectors and equitable benefit sharing must be ensured for the sustainable management of lichens. By providing a training to registered collectors on sustainable harvesting practices, regulating the market and creating a healthy relationship between collectors and buyers could minimise the over-exploitation. Over-exploitation of lichens in the Himalaya for household and commercial uses is recognised as a major threat. Over-exploitation will cause a decrease in the local population density. Therefore, steps for lichen conservation should start with the maintenance of forest habitat, forest area and functional connectivity, together with sustainable management. Lichen diversity should be
protected from destruction caused by anthropogenic activities, as habitat loss and fragmentation of natural forest landscapes cause tremendous declines in forest-dwelling lichen populations (Devkota et al. 2017).

Credits

Assessor(s): Devkota, S. & Weerakoon, G.
Reviewer(s): Scheidegger, C.
Bibliography


Citation


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External Resources

For Images and External Links to Additional Information, please see the Red List website.
Appendix

Habitats
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Suitability</th>
<th>Major Importance?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Forest -&gt; 1.4. Forest - Temperate</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Forest -&gt; 1.9. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Montane</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Threats
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Scope</th>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>Impact Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Biological resource use -&gt; 5.2. Gathering terrestrial plants -&gt; 5.2.1. Intentional use (species is the target)</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Whole (&gt;90%)</td>
<td>Negligible declines</td>
<td>Medium impact: 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Species Stresses -&gt; 2.1. Species mortality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Species Stresses -&gt; 2.2. Species disturbance</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Conservation Actions Needed
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conservation Actions Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Land/water management -&gt; 2.1. Site/area management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Species management -&gt; 3.1. Species management -&gt; 3.1.2. Trade management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Education &amp; awareness -&gt; 4.3. Awareness &amp; communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Law &amp; policy -&gt; 5.1. Legislation -&gt; 5.1.1. International level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Law &amp; policy -&gt; 5.1. Legislation -&gt; 5.1.2. National level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Law &amp; policy -&gt; 5.2. Policies and regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Livelihood, economic &amp; other incentives -&gt; 6.1. Linked enterprises &amp; livelihood alternatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Livelihood, economic &amp; other incentives -&gt; 6.2. Substitution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Livelihood, economic &amp; other incentives -&gt; 6.3. Market forces</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Research Needed
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)
### Research Needed

1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
1. Research -> 1.6. Actions

2. Conservation Planning -> 2.3. Harvest & Trade Management Plan

### Additional Data Fields

#### Distribution
- Lower elevation limit (m): 1410
- Upper elevation limit (m): 3600

#### Population
- Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown
- Extreme fluctuations: Unknown
- Population severely fragmented: Unknown
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